MR. SPEAKER: I will take up the matter. You bring it to my notice. I will deal with it myself. I will take it up.

(Interruptions)

12.06 hrs.

At this stage, Kumari Uma Bharati went back to her seat.

MR. SPEAKER: This is a question of students. I will take it up myself.

(Interruptions)

[English]

12.06 1/2 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF CONTINUANCE IN FORCE OF PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT IN RESPECT OF THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (CHITTORGARH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful for the consideration that you have shown to my colleague. It is a very real concern.

At this stage, I seek your permission, Sir, when the Resolution extending the President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh is finally being taken up, and that despite our party's many reservations, I wish to register our party's protest again. We have consistently held and have reiterated our views that this step is politically dishonest; it is constitutionally suspect and unwise; it sets a bad precedent. It is destructive of democracy; it is harmful to the State of Uttar Pradesh. We cannot be a party to any such step being taken only because all of you in the Ruling party wish to lose your reason and harm the country simply because of the arithmetic, a straight line arithmetic of numbers. We cannot be party to it. I seek the permission to withdraw.

12.07 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Jaswant Singh and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Mr. Speaker, what has been said, apart from anything, is definitely ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave in silence.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, it is a very sad day. Those who claim to be a responsible Opposition make allegation which are nothing but a reflection on your ruling. After that, nobody can take up this attitude. This is very very unfortunate. After your considered ruling yesterday, after hearing all of us, you have made a ruling. ...*(Interruptions)* We have discussed it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave in silence.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE. This is a deliberate disrespect shown to the Chair. I am happy that this party is not in power anywhere—cannot come to power in India or in Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)* So long they are kept out of power, that is good for this country. This is the most irresponsible attitude. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHADIGARH): Punjab has shown the way. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jain, if you have to leave, leave in silence.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: If we denigrate this institution, then what is this Opposition for? If we do not show proper respect to the Chair and the Chair's decision, whatever may be our feeling, we must bow to your decision. This is the way it has been described. Mere strong words will not change the situation. He may take recourse to strong English, that does not make a good point. We repudiate what has been said and we strongly condemn the irresponsible attitude of the BJP. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We are on a different matter, Mr. Mohan Rawale.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER: No Zero Hour today. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR SPEAKER: Is there anything on this?

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): I have a very small request, Mr. Speaker.

The other day, during Zero Hour I mentioned some matter in the House and I requested the Government to make a statement on that. Yesterday, Shri Indrajit Gupta, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs made a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Again you are on a different subject?

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: But he has not referred to that. That is the only thing I would like to remind.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, you have reminded.

We are on the Resolution.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: I just want to remind that a Pakistani agent has been arrested in Mumbai yesterday. What I said yesterday is 200 per cent correct. That is the only contention.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation, dated the 17th October, 1996 in

*Not Recorded

respect of Uttar Pradsh, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from the 17th April, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not today. Let us not break the convention.

[Translation]

Dr. SHAFIQUR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, This is about the Mosque.

MR. SPEAKER: Today is Friday. Today there will be no zero hour, whatever the matter may be.

12.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to Set up a National Judicial Commission

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): The procedure of appointment of High Court and Supreme Court Judges should be modified in such a manner that it may reflect social justice besides being more transparent. According to constitutional provision governing the appointments of the Supreme Court and High Court Judges, only advocates of High Courts can be appointed as Judges. The term High Court advocates has been construed to mean the advocates practising in High Courts only which is not correct. The advocates practising in Subordinate Courts are no less eligible for appointment to the posts of judge in High Courts. All the three judicial functionaries suggested to in the Constitution, viz. judges, advocates and eminent jurists should be given equal importance in the matter. Therefore, The Central Government is requested that a National Judicial Commission should be set up early for this purpose. Besides and today there is a need to put an end to such practise in order to check the misuse of cases of public interest.

(ii) Need to Expedite the Opening of Government Aquarium at Digha in Midnapore District, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (CONTAI): Digha, a beautiful sea resort on the Bay of Bengal is situated in the border areas of West Bengal and Orissa. It is in the district of Midnapore, West Bengal which attracts a large number of tourists every day. An aquarium has been built up by the Union Government for the purpose of satisfying the needs of the visitors. But the said aquarium has not yet been opened to the public in spite of the visitors' persistent demand. I would, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take urgent steps to open the aquarium to the public and equip it with all the necessary inputs.

[Translation]

(iii) Need for Early Prosecution of High Officials of Uttar Pradesh Government Involved in Corruption Cases

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (MEERUT):Since Uttar Pradesh is under President rule, the responsibility of Uttar Pradesh fully lies with the Central Government. The premises of many high officials in Uttar Pradesh have recently been raided by the Vigilance Department which has found them guilty with clearcut proofs of their involvement in corruption. But no chargesheet is being filed against them and they are not being prosecuted as the necessary permission of the State Government for the same is not forthcoming, due to which no action is being taken against the guilty officials. There are about 50 such old and new officials.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Union Home Minister to intervene and issue necessary directions to the Uttar Pradesh Government for granting permission to the vigilance department for filing chargesheet against the guilty officials so as to facilitate early prosecution of such guilty officials.

(iv) Need to Evolve a Comprehensive Master Plan For Replacement of Slums in Metropolitan Cities Particularly in Howrah, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH): Sir, Ninth Plan document is approaching very fast to share the destiny of the nation for next five years by taking special care of rural and urban development. The pressures on the urban centres are mounting every day. The metropolitan city of Howrah, which is one of the oldest in India, 510 years old, is faced with untold miseries in the slum, sanitation, health, road and drinking water. The Ninth Plan document must ensure a comprehensive master plan concept for the revival of such old cities with a proper living condition and phase by phase replacement of the slums for a proper living condition of the poorest of the poor. The idea of combining the development work in a model twin city project between Howrah and Calcutta must get special priority in the ultimate economic development with a view to strengthening the infrastructure shall depend on how we handle the urban problems of Calcutta and Howrah. While Calcutta is gaining some momentum but Howrah is on the bad side. There are enough land and opportunities to bring Howrah in a comprehensive master plan programme for its total revival. The city is affected by pollution, lack of drinking water, sanitation and communication at the nose of Calcutta city and Calcutta port.

The matter has been brought before the Prime Minister and the Planning Commission time and again through several representations. I would request the Government